

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO
WESTERN DIVISION**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,	:	Case No. 3:17CR163
Plaintiff,	:	Judge Thomas M. Rose
v.	:	
SHERWOOD A. HOWARD,	:	
Defendant.	:	

**PRELIMINARY ORDER OF FORFEITURE OF PROPERTY
AS TO DEFENDANT SHERWOOD A. HOWARD**

Upon the Motion of the United States for a Preliminary Order of Forfeiture, and the Court's review of the evidence in the record, including the Plea Agreement, the Court HEREBY FINDS THAT:

1. The Defendant pled guilty to Count One of the Information charging him with with conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute and distribute a mixture or substance containing a detectable amount of heroin, a Schedule I controlled substance, in violation of 21 U.S.C. §§ 846(a)(1) and 841(b)(1)(C), and agreed to the immediate forfeiture pursuant to 21 U.S.C. §§ 853(a)(1) and (2) of the following property (hereinafter "Subject Property"):

- a. 2006 Chevrolet Impala, VIN 2G1WD58C269228714;
- b. \$9,665.00 U.S. Currency¹;
- c. Mossberg Model 715P, 22 cal Rifle, SN EMI3922226 with associated ammunition²; and
- d. 2005 Suzuki Quad Sport Z400 4-Wheeler, SN JSAAK47A852118713.

¹ Administratively forfeited by the Federal Bureau of Investigation on 01/17/18. See Doc. 30.

² Administratively forfeited by the Federal Bureau of Investigation on 01/17/18. See Doc. 30.

2. The Defendant specifically agreed that the Subject Property was subject to forfeiture pursuant to 21 U.S.C. §§ 853(a)(1) and (2).

3. The Defendant has an interest in the Subject Property.

4. The Subject Property is forfeitable pursuant to 21 U.S.C. §§ 853(a)(1) and (2) as any property constituting, or derived from, any proceeds obtained, directly or indirectly and any property used, or intended to be used, in any manner or part, to commit, or to facilitate the commission of the violation charged in Count One of the Indictment.

5. The United States has established the requisite nexus between the Subject Property and the Defendant's offense.

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

6. The Defendant shall hereby forfeit pursuant to 21 U.S.C. §§ 853(a)(1) and (2) any property constituting or derived from, any proceeds obtained, directly or indirectly and any property used, or intended to be used, in any manner or part, to commit or to facilitate the commission of the violation charged in Count One of the Information.

7. Pursuant to 21 U.S.C. §§ 853(a)(1) and (2) the following Subject Property is hereby forfeited:

- a. 2006 Chevrolet Impala, VIN 2G1WD58C269228714; and
- b. 2005 Suzuki Quad Sport Z400 4-Wheeler, SN JSAAK47A852118713.

8. The Defendant having agreed to the immediate forfeiture of the Subject Property, this Preliminary Order of Forfeiture is final as to the Defendant. This order remains preliminary as to third parties until the ancillary proceeding is concluded.

9. The United States is authorized to seize the Subject Property, whether held by the defendant or a third party; conduct any discovery proper in identifying, locating or disposing of

the property subject to forfeiture; and to commence proceedings that comply with any statutes and federal rules governing third party rights, in accordance with Fed. R. Crim. P. 32.2(b)(3).

10. In accordance with the direction provided by the Attorney General and Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 32.2(b)(6), the United States shall publish notice of this Preliminary Order of Forfeiture and send notice to any person who reasonably appears to be a potential claimant with standing to contest the forfeiture in the ancillary proceeding. Publication must take place as described in Supplemental Rule G(4)(a)(iii) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and may be by any means described in Supplemental Rule G(4)(a)(iv). Publication is unnecessary if any exception in Supplemental Rule G(4)(a)(i) applies.

11. The notice must describe the forfeited property, state the times under the applicable statute when a petition contesting the forfeiture must be filed, and state the name and contact information for the Assistant United States Attorney to be served with the petition. The notice may be sent in accordance with Supplemental Rules G(4)(b)(iii)-(v) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

12. Any person, other than the Defendant, filing a petition to contest the forfeiture of specific property, must sign the petition under penalty of perjury and shall set forth the nature and extent of the petitioner's right, title, or interest in the property, the time and circumstances of the petitioner's acquisition of the right, title, or interest in the property, any additional facts supporting the petitioner's claim, and the relief sought.

13. If a third party files a petition asserting an interest in the Subject Property, the court will conduct an ancillary proceeding.

14. When the ancillary proceeding ends, the court will enter a final order of forfeiture by amending the preliminary order as necessary to account for any third-party rights. If no third party files a timely petition, this Preliminary Order of Forfeiture will become the Final Order of Forfeiture.

15. The United States shall have clear title to the Subject Property following the court's disposition of all third party interests, or if no third party petitions are timely filed, following the expiration of the period provided by statute for the filing of third party petitions.

16. The Court shall retain jurisdiction to enforce this order; and to amend it as necessary, pursuant to Fed. R. Crim P. 32.2(e).

Dated: March 27, 2018

SO ORDERED:

*s/Thomas M. Rose

THOMAS M. ROSE
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT JUDGE